

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00060 01 OF 02 191421Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 EUR-12 ARA-10 /085 W
-----191636Z 096923 /42

O 191027Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5597

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 0060

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE FROM EDMONDSON

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: PFOR, RH
SUB: RHODESIA: RICHARD'S ARRIVAL STATEMENTS
IN SOUTH AFRICA

FOLLOWING IS BRITISH EMBASSY'S TRANSCRIPT OF IVOR RICHARD'S
PRESS CONFERENCE UPON ARRIVAL IN CAPE TOWN LAST NIGHT,
JANUARY 18,1977:

BEGIN TEXT.

"FIRST OF ALL AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW, WE ARE NOW STARTING
SO AS TO SPEAK, THE SECOND ROUND OF THIS SHUTTLE. THE FIRST
TIME WE WENT ROUND I SAID THAT I WAS TAKING SOME THOUGHTS
(FROM THIS) GOVERNMENT TO DISCUSS WITH THE VARIOUS PARTIES
AND THE VARIOUS PARTICIPANTS. WE'VE DONE THAT AND WE'VE
NOW TRIED TO-IF YOU'LL FORGIVE MY USING AN AMERICANISM
THAT MR MUGABE USED-CONCRETISE THOSE THOUGHTS INTO SOMETHING
MORE SPECIFIC AND I NOW PROPOSE GOING ROUND AND TALKING TO
THE PARTIES AND ALSO TO THOSE COUNTRIES MOST INTERESTED. I
LOOK FORWARD VERY MUCH INDEED TO SEEING THE PRIME MINISTER
TOMORROW. AFTER I'VE BEEN HERE WE GO TO SALISBURY WHERE I
SHALL SEE MR.SMITH AND BISHOP MUZOREWA. AFTER THAT OUR PLANS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00060 01 OF 02 191421Z

ARE SLIGHTLY UNCLEAR-I SHALL BE SEEING THE PATRIOTIC FRONT,
MR NKOMO AND MR MUGABE TOGETHER ON ABOUT 29TH, 30TH-THAT
SORT IF DATE. WE ARE NOT ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN OF THE DATE YET.
BUT PROBABLY IN LUSAKA BUT IT MIGHT ALSO BE IN MAPUTO. SO
THAT'S THE PRESENT STAGE THAT WE'VE REACHED.

Q: MR RICHARD, WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT NOW IN YOUR DISCUSSION

WITH MR VORSTER THAN LAST TIME-WHAT IS SO DIFFERENT?

A; WELL I THINK REALLY THE DIFFERENCE IS THAT LAST TIME WE WERE REALLY EXCHANGING VIEWS AND I THINK THIS TIME I WOULD SAY THAT BRITAIN HAS MORE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS THAT WE WISH TO DISCUSS.

Q: IT WAS STATED IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY YOUR FOREIGN SECRETARY THAT THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT SOUTH AFRICA COULD INTERVENE IN RHODESIA SHOULD ANY CUBAN INTERVENTION TAKE PLACE. NOW HE MADE THE STATEMENT AT LUXEMBOURG. COULD YOU JUSTIFY IF POSSIBLE THE REASONS BEHIND HIM MAKING THIS PARTICULAR STATEMENT?

A: I HAVEN'T SEEN THE STATEMENT-WHEN DID HE DO IT?

Q: WEDNESDAY LAST WEEK

A: I HAVEN'T SEEN THE TRANSCRIPT-I'M AFRAID I COULDN'T

Q: IN FACT, HE DID MAKE IT-I HAVE GOT A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT, SO HE MUST HAVE HAD SOME REASON TO MAKE THIS?

A: WELL, I HAVE NO IDEA ACTUALLY-BUT, AND I HAVEN'T SEEN THIS SPECIFIC STATEMENT SO IT'S DIFFICULT FOR ME TO COMMENT.

Q: SIR THIS WAS SOON AFTER YOUR VISIT TO OUBOSRAND?

A: OH, I SEE WHAT YOU'RE GETTING AT. NO, WHEN I WAS AT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00060 01 OF 02 191421Z

OUBOSTRAND AND I HAD A VERY INTERESTING AND HELPFUL DAY WITH THE PRIME MINISTER THIS PARTICULAR TOPIC WAS NOT ONE THAT FIGURED AT ALL LARGELY ON THE AGENDA OF ITEMS THAT WE DISCUSSED.

Q: I SEE, BUT SURELY HE MADE A STATEMENT AND THERE MUST BE SOME BACKGROUND, HE MUST HAVE HAD SOME INFORMATION?

A; WELL, IT'S A BIT DIFFICULT FOR ME FRANKLY TO SORT OF COMMENT ON A STATEMENT I HAVEN'T ACTUALLY SEEN. IF YOU ARE ASKING ME ABOUT THE GENERAL POSITION THAT I AM PREPARED TO COMMENT ON BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN THE TRANSCRIPT OF WHAT MR CROSLAND IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE SAID.

Q: HOW DO THE PRESENT PROPOSALS DIFFER FROM THE PREVIOUS ONES AND IF NOT, IN WHICH AREAS IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?

A: WELL, I THOUGHT I'D ALREADY ANSWERED THAT ALREADY. I MEAN THEY ARE MORE SPECIFIC THAN THE THOUGHTS THAT WE BROUGHT EARLIER.

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS IS, IF I MAQ SAU SO GENTLEMEN THAT WHEN I CAME OUT LAST TIME AND I SAID I WAS NOT BRINGING PROPOSALS, I WAS ONLY BRINGING THOUGHTS AND IDEAS, YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE ME. I WAS ACTUALLY ONLY BRINGING SORT OF THOUGHTS AND IDEAS LAST TIME, NOW I THINK WE ARE BRINGING SOMETHING WHICH IS RATHER MORE SPECIFIC AND I WISH TO TALK ABOUT IT IN MORE SPECIFIC TERMS.

Q: ARE YOU BRINGING ANYTHING THAT YOU THINK MIGHT COME AS A SURPRISS TO MR. VORSTER?

A: I DON'T THINK MR VORSTER IS A MAN WHO IS EASILY SURPRISED. THAT'S NOT MY IMPRESSION OF HIM ANYWAY.

Q: DO YOU EXPECT TO SPEND A FEW DAYS IN SALISBURY?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 CAPE T 00060 01 OF 02 191421Z

A: YES. WELL I WOULD HOPE ACTUALLY THAT THIS TIME THAT I COULD SPEND MORE THAT THE 24-30 HOURS I SPENT THERE LAST HIME. I DON'T REALLY WANT TO SEE SALISBURY-I WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOMETHING OF RHODESIA ITSELF, AND I HOPE TO SPEND TWO OR THREE DAYS GOING OUTSIDE SALISBURY, TRYING TO FAMILIARISE MYSELF WITH THE COUNTRY.I'D LIKE TO MEET MORE PEOPLE THAN I MET LAST TIME, AND IT'S DIFFICULT TO DO THIS FRANKLY JUST BY SITTING IN A HOTEL IN SALISBURY-HOWEVER PLEASANT THE HOTEL MIGHT BE.

Q: BEFORE YOU COMMUNICATED WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT A FEW DAYS AGO WE READ ABOUT THIS IN OUR LOCAL PRESS- WAS THERE A POINT WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT WAS ALL A WASTE OF TIME, YOU WERE ABOUT TO GIVE IT UP?

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00060 02 OF 02 191721Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 EUR-12 ARA-10 /085 W

-----191733Z 099500 /40

O 191027Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5598

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 CAPETOWN 0060

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE FROM EDMONDSON

A: NO,NO,NOT AT ALL, I NEVER THOUGHT IT WAS A WASTE OF TIME.
I THINK THAT AGAIN WITH RESPECT, PEOPLE DON'T ENTIRELY BELIEVE
WHAT ONE SAYS TO THEM. THEY MAY HAVE GOOD REASONS FOR THIS BUT
OCCASIONALLY IT'S NICE TO BE ABLE TO SAY WE (SAID IT BEFORE).
I MEAN MY OWN VIEW ABOUT GENEVA AKD ABOUT THE PROSPECTS OF A
SETTLEMENT REMAIN EXACTLY WHAT THEY WERE NOW AS THEY WERE JUST
BEFORE WE WENT THERE- WHICH WAS THAT THE ELEMENTS FOR A
SETTLEMENT ARE THERE IF WE CAN SLOT IT TOGETHER. NOW IN THE
LAST THREE WEEKS SINCE I'VE BEEN IN SOUTH AFRICA I THINK WE'VE
ACHIEVED QUITE A LOT. INDEED IN SOME WAYS RATHER MORE THAN
I EXPECTED TO FIRST TIME ROUND WE'VE GOT SPECIFIC ASSURANCES
NOW FROM THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS THAT WHEN AN INTERIM
GOVERNMENT IS SET UP IN RHODESIA WHEN THE WAR WILL COME TO AN
END. WE'VE ALSO GOT UNDERSTANDINGS , IF NOT SPECIFIC
UNDERTAKINGS FROM THE NATIONALIST GROUPS THAT THE THOUGHTS
THAT I BROUGHT LAST TIME AND I HOPE THE MORE CONCRETE PROPOSAL
I BRING THIS TIME ARE REALLY A BASIS FOR REAL NEGOTIATIONS-
NOW THIS WE DIDN'T HAVE FRANKLY THREE WEEKS AGO.MY ATTITUDE
TO THE ISSUE IS SIMPLY- I WILL STAY IN AFRICA AS LONG AS
IT IS HELPFUL AND AS LONG AS IT ISSUSEFUL TO US TO DO SO. SO
FAR IT HAS BEEN HELPFUL AND USEFUL. THE MOMENT THAT IT BECOMES
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00060 02 OF 02 191721Z

USELESS WELL THEN, I WILL OBVIOUSLY PAKK UP THIS SHUTTLE AND
GO HOME. IT MAY BE THAT IN THE COURSE OF THE NEXT TEN DAYS I
WILL WANT TO GO BACK TO LONDON IN ORDER TO CONSULT THE GOVERNMENT
AND MINISTERS AND THE PRIME MINISTER ABOUT THE PROGRESS WE'VE
MADE SO FAR. THAT'S CERTAINLY TRUE BUT WE QILL BE COMING BACK
AGAIN
AND ANY INTERRUPTION THAT THERE IU IN THE MISSION IS
CLEARLY WILL ONLY BE FOR CONSULTATION AND NOTHING ELSE.

Q: WILL THIS COME BEFORE YOU GO TO SALISBURY?

A: NO, NO.

Q: WILL YOU BE SEEING-YOU DIDN'T MENTION REVEREND SITHOLE
WHEN YOU TALKED ABOUT THE NATIONALIST LEADERS YOU WILL BE SEEING.

WILL YOU BE SEEING HIM? AND ON REFLECTION FDO YOU FEEL THAT SUPPORT WHICH THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS GAVE TO THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IS A HELP OR A HINDRANCE TO YOUR MISSION?

A: IT'S A COMPLICATION-THERE IS NO QUESTION ABOUT THAT. AS TO WHETHER IT'S A HELP OR A HINDRANCE I THINK WE MUST WAIT AND SEE BUT ON THE FACE OF IT IT'S CLEARLY COMPLICATED THE ISSUES THAT WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH AND THE WAY IN WHICH WE DEAL WITH THEM. I MADE MY VIEW ON THAT CLEAR AT THE PRESIDENTS. I DON'T EXPECT THEM TO AGREE WQTH ME ABOUT EVERYTHING BUT I THINK THAT THEY ACCEPT THAT. AS FOR THE REVEREND SITHOLE, I SAW HIM IN DAR-I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIM AGAIN IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE BUT AGAIN ITS THIS PROBLEM OF FRANKLY FITTING EVERYBODY'S ITINERARIES TOGETHER. I HOPE WE CAN DO IT FAIRLY SOON.

Q: WHEN AND WHERE DO YOU EXPECT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO RESUME?

A: WELL, ON THE FACE OF IT I WOULD EXECT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE LO RESUME IN GENEVA, BUT CAN I JUST SAY THIS ABOUT IT-IT WAS ALWAYS MY VIEW THAT IT WAS DESIRABLE IF IT COULD TAKE PLACE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00060 02 OF 02 191721Z

IN AFRICA. THE TROUBLE IS WE REALLY COUNLDN'T FIND A SITE-A VENUE- THAT EVERYBODY AGREED TO COME TO WHICH WAS IN AFRICA. THERE WERE SOME VERY EXOTIC VENUES SUGGESTED SOME OF WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE PLESANT AND WARMER AND PERHAPS RATHER MORE ATTRACTIVE THAN SWITZERLAND IS AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. BUT THE FACT OF THE MATTER WAS THAT SWITZERLAND WAS THE ONLY PLACE THAT EVERYBODY AGREED WAS A PLACE TO HOLD A CONFERENCE. NOW IF THERE'S A GENERAL VIEW THAT IT SHOULD BE CHANGED TO SOMEWHERE MORE AMENABLE WELL SO BE IT, I'M NOT GOING TO GO TO THE STAKE FOR GENEVA-IF THAT THE RIGHT WORD FOR IT-. IT'S A VERY EXPENSIVE TOWN YOU KNOW, APART FROM EVERYTHING ELSE, MANY CONSIDERATIONS HAVE TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BUT AT THE MOMENT IT LOOKS AS IF GENEVA'S THE ONLY PLACE EVERYBODY WILL AGREE TO GO.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL VIEW INsofar AS THIS QUESTION OF THE POSSIBLE INTERVENTION OF SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD CUBA BE INVOLVED AND HOULS THIS RHODESIA SETTLEMENT ISSUE TURN INTO A DEBACLE?

A: WELL MY VIEW BASICALLY IS THIS. WE ARE ENGAGED ON AN ENTERPRISE THE OBJECT OF WHICH IS TO STOP AUWAR AND PRODUCE A PEACEFUL TRANSITION. THE DIFFICULTIES ABOUT WAR AND WARS ARE THAT YOU CAN'T CONTAIN THEM. NOW YOU CAN'T HAVE A NICE LITTLE LOCALISED WAR AND PRETEND THAT SOMEHOW OR OTHER IT'S ALL GOING TO STAY IN THAT AREA OR IN THAT PARTICULAR COUNTRY AND THAT NOTHING ELSE OUTSIDE IS GOING TO BE AFFECTED. NOW

THIS IS WHY I SAID RECENTLY AND MY GOVERNMENT HAS SAID- THAT
THE ENDING OF THE WAS AND A PEACEFUL TRANSITION WE REG4\$ -
?38,& *7,\$-.3,5-) AND I USE THE WORD DELIBERATELY-FUNDAMENTAL-
TO THE PEACE OF THIS REGION AND IT MAY BE INDEED TO THE
STABILITY OF OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD AS WELL. SO WE ARE HERE
ACTUALLY TO TRY AND PREVENT A CATASTROPHE. IF A CATASTROPHE
IS NOT PREVENTED I THINK IT WOULD BE A VERY FOOLISH MAN WHO
WOULD NOW PROPHECY THE PRECISE WAY IN WHICH THE DISASTER MIGHT
STRIKE OR WHICH THE CATASTROPHE MIGHT ENGULF. BUT I'M
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 CAPE T 00060 02 OF 02 191721Z

PERFECTLY CERTAIN IN MY OWN MIND THAT IF WE DON'T GET A PEACEFUL
SETTLEMENT THEN THE POTENTIALITIES FOR THE FUTURE ARE EXTREMELY
GRAVE".

END TZXT

BOWDLER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PRESS CONFERENCES, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS, MINISTERS (DIPLOMATS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAPET00060
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770020-0208
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770138/aaaabhhe.tel
Line Count: 300
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b2f3a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3562571
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: RICHARD'S ARRIVAL STATEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA FOLLOWING IS BRITISH EMBASSY'S TRANSCRIPT OF IVOR
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, RH, (RICHARD, IVOR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b2f3a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009